

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of provisioning user preferences comprising:
detecting a coupling of a device to a network;
identifying a user corresponding to the device; and
configuring the device according to user preferences associated with the identified user.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein the device includes a service.
3. The method of claim 2 wherein the configuring includes configuring the service.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein the identifying comprises identifying the user by user usage patterns.
5. The method of claim 1 wherein the identifying a user corresponding to the device is determined by examining other devices and services on the network.
6. The method of claim 1 wherein the identifying comprises identifying the corresponding user to be a user who has most recently used the device.
7. The method as set forth in claim 2, further comprising unloading another service according to the user preferences.

8. The method as set forth in claim 2, further comprising loading the service according to the user preferences of the identified user.

9. The method of claim 1 wherein the identifying comprises querying a data store which associates a set of devices and identities of users of the set of devices.

10. A machine-readable medium having executable instructions to cause a machine to perform a method comprising:
detecting a coupling of a device to a network;
identifying a user corresponding to the device; and
configuring the device according to user preferences associated with the identified user.

11. The machine-readable medium of claim 10 wherein the device includes a service.

12. The machine-readable medium of claim 11 wherein the configuring includes configuring the service.

13. The machine-readable medium of claim 10 wherein the identifying comprises identifying the user by user usage patterns.

14. The machine-readable medium of claim 10 wherein the identifying a user corresponding to the device is determined by examining other devices and services on the network.

15. The machine-readable medium of claim 10 wherein the identifying comprises identifying the corresponding user to be a user who has most recently used the device.

16. The machine-readable medium as set forth in claim 10, further comprising unloading another service according to the user preferences.

17. The machine-readable medium as set forth in claim 11, further comprising loading the service according to the user preferences of the identified user.

18. The machine-readable medium of claim 10 wherein the identifying comprises querying a data store which associates a set of devices and identities users of the set of devices.

19. A system comprising:

a device selectively coupled through a network;

a user profile comprising user preferences of the associated user for the device; and

a custom setting manager to associate a user to the device and further to access the user profile when the device is coupled to the network and configure the device according to the user preferences.

20. The system of claim 19 wherein the user is associated to the device by user usage patterns.

21. The system of claim 19 wherein the user is associated to the device by examining the other devices and services on the network.

22. The system of claim 19 wherein the user is associated to the last user of the device.
23. The system of claim 19, wherein the user profile further comprises:
an association between the user and the device.
24. The system of claim 19, further comprising:
a user manager to detect when the device is coupled.
25. A system comprising:
a network;
a plurality of devices selectively coupled through the network; and
a custom settings manager configured to identify the user of the device
and further to access user preferences associated with the user and selectively
configure devices based upon the user preference associated with the user.
26. The system of claim 25 wherein the identifying the user comprises
identifying the user from the user usage patterns.
27. The system of claim 25 wherein the identifying the user comprises
identifying the user by examining the other devices and services currently
coupled to the network.
28. The system of claim 25 wherein the identifying the user comprises
identifying the user to be a user who has most recently used the device.

29. The system of claim 25 further comprising:
a user manager that detects a coupling of a device to the network.
30. The system of claim 25, wherein the identification is accomplished by
querying a preferences database.
31. The system of claim 25, wherein the accessing and configuring are
performed by a preference agent.
32. The system of claim 25 where the plurality of devices includes a service,
the service to be identified in the user preferences.